

## **How to Read and Interpret the Outcome Measures Report An Example: Employment Measure**

For the purpose of this exercise, we will discuss the January 2007 information found on page 2 of this document.

### **Who is included in this January 2007 count?**

All those people that were discharged (N=15) from your agency in January 2007 are represented in this report.

Change = (Admission – Discharge)

Step 1: We pull all employment status (Unknown, Not in the labor force, unemployed, etc.) information that you have collected for each person at discharge.

Step 2: For all the people in the discharge set above, we pull the employment status information applicable at admission.

Step 3: Table 1 displays the distribution of people with respect to their employment status (just a frequency) run at admission and discharge. For example, for the people that we are calculating the employment outcome for, as a cohort 13% were not in the labor force, 53% were unemployed, 20% were employed part-time, and 13% were employed full-time at admission. At discharge for this cohort, 40% were not in the labor force, 13% were unemployed, 7% were employed part-time, and 40% were employed full-time.

### **What outcome measures are we looking for?**

The outcome is calculated by comparing the discharge information with the admission information for each client. Measures are calculated for people that have valid (not missing or unknown) information available at admission and discharge. We are looking for improvement or maintenance in an individual's employment status. For example, if a person at the time of admission was employed part-time and at the time of discharge checks employed full-time, that is a change in the positive direction, an improvement. Whereas if the person had checked unemployed, that would be a change in the negative direction. Refer footnote.

For January 2007, 22% (representing 2 people) maintained their employment status. 44% (representing 4 people) improved their employment status. (Refer Table 2). This represents 6 of the 15 people. What happened? People that identify themselves as not being in the labor force are not part of the calculation as they are not in the market looking for employment. In this example, 6 people identified themselves as not being in the labor force, 2 probably are still unemployed, and possibly one had a change in the negative direction.

### **How do we know for how many people data was invalid?**

Table 3 provides you with a summary of people that have invalid information at admission, or discharge, or at both time-points. These are people that would be in the calculation and could bring noise into your outcome data. For the example in reference, we have no information missing.

**INITIAL REPORT****Consumer-Level Outcome Measures Report****Provider Name****Report Generated 3/23/2007 12:19:52 PM****SA Outpatient****Employment Status****Table 1**

	Dec. 2006						Jan. 2007					
	Admission		Discharge		Change		Admission		Discharge		Change	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Unknown	0	0%	1	3.45%	1	3.45%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Not in Labor Force	4	13.79%	4	13.79%	0	0%	2	13.33%	6	40%	4	26.67%
Unemployed	9	31.03%	4	13.79%	-5	-17.24%	8	53.33%	2	13.33%	-6	-40%
Employed Part-Time	1	3.45%	4	13.79%	3	10.34%	3	20%	1	6.67%	-2	-13.33%
Employed Full-Time	15	51.72%	16	55.17%	1	3.45%	2	13.33%	6	40%	4	26.67%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>29</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>0</b>	

Table 2

		N	Count	Percent		N	Count	Percent
Employed at Adm., Maintained Status at Dis. <sup>1</sup>		24	13	54.17%		9	2	22.22%
Improved Status Between Adm. and Dis. <sup>2</sup>		24	3	12.50%		9	4	44.44%

Table 3

		Count	Percent		Count	Percent
Missing Data at Admission		0	0%		0	0%
Missing Data at Discharge		1	3.57%		0	0%
Missing Data at Adm. and Dis.		0	0%		0	0%

<sup>1</sup> Consumers are considered to have maintained their Employment Status if they were employed Full- or Part-Time at Admission and had the same status at Discharge

<sup>2</sup> Consumers are considered to have improved their Employment Status if they were

- a) Unemployed or Employed Part-Time at Admission and Employed Full-Time at Discharge, or
- b) Unemployed at Admission and Employed Part-Time at Discharge